

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: DAVID, Guy

SERIAL NO.:

FILED: Herewith

TITLE: DEVICE FOR SEPARATING THE HARD COMPONENTS OF A GRINDER USED IN THE FIELD OF THE FOOD INDUSTRY, AND IN PARTICULAR FOR THE MINCING OF MEAT

Preliminary Amendment: CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently amended) Device for separating~~the~~ hard components for a grinder used in the field of the food industry, and more particularly of the mincing of meat, ~~of the type comprising;~~ downstream of one or several cutting assemblies each comprised of a star-shaped cutter with several legs and a grid having ~~more or less large~~ openings, said device comprising:

a grid~~(1)~~ for stopping said hard components~~which is~~ associated with a separating cutter~~(2)~~ ~~designed~~ capable of draining said hard components towards the center, in order to cause them to pass between said cutter~~(2)~~ and said grid~~(1)~~ into a collecting tube~~(4)~~ intended at being connected to a discharge pipe, said collecting tube~~(4)~~ being screwed into a supporting grid or spider~~(5)~~ according to an adjustable depth with a possibility of blocking, through a counter-nut~~(40)~~, in order to adapt its position with respect to said separating cutter~~(2)~~, characterized in that wherein said collecting tube~~(4)~~ ~~includes, on the one hand,~~ comprises an axial recess~~(41)~~ capable of receiving ~~the~~ an end~~(30)~~ of the driving shaft~~(3)~~ of the cutters of said grinder, so that the latter can be held transversely and rotate in it and, ~~on the other hand,~~ peripherally with respect to said axial recess~~(41)~~,

at least one channel-(42) ~~capable of allowing the~~ transit of said hard components towards said discharge pipe.

2. (Currently amended) Device according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that the~~ wherein said axial recess-(41) of the collecting tube-(4) intended at receiving the end-(30) of the driving shaft-(3) is ~~provided with~~ comprised of a ring-(43).

3. (Currently amended) Device according to claim 2, ~~characterized in that the~~ wherein said collecting tube-(4) ~~has~~ further comprises an axial channel-(41) surrounded by a plurality of peripheral channels-(42) with axes parallel to said axial channel-(41).

4. (Currently amended) Device according to ~~any of the preceding claims, characterized in that the~~ Claim 1, wherein said axial channel-(41) and the peripheral channels-(42) extend in the collecting tube-(4) over a portion of the latter.

5. (Currently amended) Device according to claim 3 ~~or claim 4, characterized in that,~~ wherein outer ends-(44) of the peripheral channels-(42) are beveled.